

London
4/6
THE
CONFESSIO
AND
EXECUTION
Of the Seven Prisoners that suffered at
TYBURN

On Wednesday the 6th of March 1677.

At which time were Executed

William Johnson, } A Boy, the Colchester
Francis Rastfield, } Blanch Oakley, at Bourne
Another, ^{the Williams} } and
Hugh Mills, } Joan Griffin.

WITH
An Account of their Behaviour in
Prison after Condemnation, and their
Discourses to some Friends and Ministers
that Visited them.

The Wages of Sin is Death.

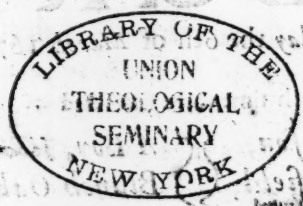
This may be Printed. Ro. L'Estrange.

London: Printed for D. M. 1678.

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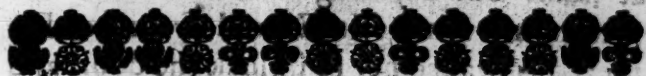
106

THE
CONFESSION
AND
EXECUTION
OF THE SEVEN
TYBURN



WITH
An Account of their Behaviour
in Prison after Condemnation; and
Discourses to some Friends and Ministers
that Visited them.

The Widow's Story
This may be Printed
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The Confession and Execution of
the Prisoners at Tyburn, March 6. 1676.

THere were in all eleven persons (seven men and four women) that received Sentence of Death at the last Sessions; who were most of them old Offenders, and such as before had lain under that terrible Condemnation, or at least been burnt in the hand or transported for their wicked Practices: But no Mercy can Reclaim, no Warning Reform some obstinate and incorrigible sinners.

One of these, call'd *William Johnson*, had the benefit of his Clergy about five years since, and has several times been in *Newgate*; but the Fact he now suffer'd for, was thus: On Sunday the 17th of February, in Prayer-time in the afternoon, he and another, not yet to be found, knockt at a Goldsmiths house in *Cheapside*, where there was no body

head

A 2

at

at home but a young Gentlewoman; and
pretending some fair ~~Business~~ from her Fa-
ther, perswaded her to unlock the door, and
the Chain being unhappily down, they im-
mediately ran in upon her, gagged and se-
cured her whilst they rifled the house, and
stole away Plate of a very great value, as
much as they could well carry
off. Though it were positively sworn by
the aforesaid maid that he was one of them,
yet both at his Trial and when he received
Sentence he very stoutly denied it, and much
pleaded his innocence; yet afterwards when
he saw there was no hope but he must suf-
fer, he acknowledged it: but could not be
brought to discover the other person that
was with him, nor where the Plate was
though great endavours were used by the
Ordinary and some others to perswade him
thereunto.

Francis Rastfield, otherwise called *Williams*,
was condemned for Felony and Burglary, be-
ing in the neighbourhood of *St. Mary's*
chantry in *St. Dunstons*, and stealing rich Clothes
and other Goods, to a very great value. Being
a person of ill fame, and formerly burnt in the
hand;

hand, he was taken with one *Morley*, lately executed upon *Turpin*; and the Gentlewoman that had been robbed, coming to speak with him to endeavour some discovery, she observ'd a Cravat about his neck made of the Lace of one of her Aprons, which she knew very well, as being made with her own hands. He pretended the Cravat was given to him; and brought in a flut, that was a Prisoner in *Newgate*, to own the gave it him, and that it was made in the same Jail. But after Sentence, he confess'd he was concern'd in that Robbery, and many others with the said *Morley*, and behaved himself very penitently.

There was one that had been many years a Companion and Assister of naughty persons. At his Sentence it was declared, That he had received and melted down both the plate of *Westminster Cathedral* and that of *New College in Oxford*, and been concern'd in several other notorious Pranks; though that he was condemn'd for, was about a Watch pickt out of a Gentleman's pocket in *St. Sepulchres Church*. No impudently daring are such wicked men, that they presume to practise their Villanies even in the House of God, and make the Sacred Temple a Den of Thieves. The Watch was taken upon him, and he could give no account how he came by it. He seem'd not much affected with his bad condition, but rather flatter'd himself with hopes of getting off; but soon after he was always

always to baffle or elude the stroke of Justice : His fatal moment was come, and with much appearance of Repentance for his past ill life, he this day went to suffer with the rest.

Hugh Mills died for stealing of Cloath. He had been not long since transported; but was come back before the time limited, and was now found guilty of a fresh Felony. He express'd more Remorse and Penitence in his Behaviour than any of the rest, and confess'd very freely what a wicked Liver he had been; desiring all young men to take warning by him, and avoid Idleness, Gaming, and ill Company, which first brought him to these destructive Courses.

A young Lad suffered for stealing some foul Linnen. He had (notwithstanding all the Correction and Admonition of his Friends to the contrary) been guilty of Thievery, and once condemned to die before, and yet not above sixteen years of age. He begg'd hard for Transportation, and promised Amendment; but having received Mercie before, he was now left to the severity of the Law as an incorrigible Offender.

Of the Women there was *Blanch Oakley*, who stole her Master, a Jeweller, of several Pretious Stones, a Garter belonging to the Noble Order of St. George, and other things of value; and

was,

forward
with story
of Clayton
in court

The Holists

to Bourne

was, it seems, one of those, whereof this Town
has too many, who under pretence of getting
Service, do ouely seek opportunities to rob
those they pretend to serve.

The other was *Joan Griffin*, one that had long
made Thieving her Trade, and not long ago
received the Kings Pardon; but immediately
fell to her old practice of stealing, having now
rob'd a person of a good piece of Cloth, for
which she suffered.

The rest of the persons Condemned obtained
his Majesties gracious Reprieve; and we wish
they may make good use of their time which is
allowed them by his mercie; and abandon all
their vile Associates to betake themselves to
honest Employments, that they may never again
come under the like lamentable Circumstances.

Between the time of Condemnation and Ex-
ecution, Mr. Ordinary took abundance of Chri-
stian-pains both by Preaching, Praying and pri-
vate Exhortations, to make them all sensible of
their Condition; and we hope with that effect,
that their poor Souls may now be blessing the
God of Mercie in Happiness, for those precious
opportunities. It being observed that most of
them, all the time after Sentence, behaved them-
selves much more civilly, and with a better
frame of Spirit, than others that before them
have

